



SEAL UP

Seal up holes inside and outside the home to prevent entry by rodents.

Prevent rodents from entering the home by checking inside the house for gaps or holes any larger than a pencil could fit into. Potential rodent entry holes can be found inside, under, and behind kitchen cabinets, inside closets, around doors, and under sinks. Seal the holes, using steel wool, lath metal, or caulk. If you do not remember to seal up entry holes in your home, mice will continue to enter.

Prevent rodents from entering the home outside. Clear brush and grass from around the foundation of the home. Check the house for debris and holes that might encourage rodent infestations. Potential rodent entry holes can be found around windows and doors, between the foundation of your house and the ground, and around electrical, plumbing and gas lines. Seal possible entry holes with cement, lath metal, hardware cloth, or sheet metal. Fix gaps in trailer skirtings and use flashing around the base of the house.



TRAP UP

Trap rodents around the home to help reduce the population.

- ✓ Choose an appropriate snap trap. Traps for catching mice are different from those for catching rats. Always read the instructions on the box before setting the trap. A small amount of peanut butter (approximately the size of a pea) should be placed on the bait pan of the snap trap. Position the bait end of the trap next to the wall so it forms a "T" with the wall.
- ✓ Glue traps and live traps are not recommended. These traps can scare mice that are caught live and cause them to urinate. This may increase your risk of being exposed to Hantavirus.
- ✓ Place traps in outbuildings and in areas that might likely serve as rodent shelters. Natural rodent predators, such as non-poisonous snakes, owls, and hawks, may also be beneficial in the control and reduction of rodents outside the home.



CLEAN UP

Clean up urine and droppings

Take precautions before and while cleaning rodent-infested areas. Before cleaning a space, ventilate the area by opening the doors and windows for at least 30 minutes to diffuse potentially infectious aerosolized material. Use cross-ventilation and leave the area during the airing-out period.

When you begin cleaning, it is important that you do not stir up dust by sweeping or vacuuming up droppings, urine, or nesting materials. Wear rubber, latex, vinyl, or nitrile gloves when cleaning urine and droppings. Spray the urine and droppings with a disinfectant or a [mixture of bleach and water](#) and let soak 5 minutes. The recommended concentration of bleach solution is 1 part bleach to 10 parts water. Use a paper towel to pick up the urine and droppings, and dispose of the waste in the garbage. After the rodent droppings and urine have been removed, disinfect items that might have been contaminated by rodents or their urine and droppings.

Mop floors and clean countertops with disinfectant or bleach solution. Steam clean or shampoo upholstered furniture and carpets with evidence of rodent exposure. Wash any bedding and clothing with laundry detergent in hot water if exposed to rodent urine or droppings. Lastly, before removing gloves used while cleaning, wash gloved hands with soap and water or spray a disinfectant or bleach solution on gloves before taking them off. Wash hands with soap and warm water after removing glovesolized material. Wear rubber, latex, vinyl, or nitrile gloves and clean up all rodent urine, droppings, nests, and dead rodents using disinfectant or bleach and water. Mop floors or spray dirt floors with a disinfectant or mixture of bleach and water. Clean countertops, cabinets, and drawers with a disinfectant or a mixture of bleach and water. The special precautions may also apply to vacant dwellings that have attracted large numbers of rodents and to dwellings and other structures that have been occupied by persons with confirmed Hantavirus infection.

The Prevention of Hantavirus Disease

Air out closed
buildings 1 hour.
Disinfect places
rodents have
been, then
clean up.



Repair screens
and holes
or cracks
in walls.



Wear rubber gloves.
Trap and disinfect rodents.



Disinfect and clean up rodent
nests and droppings.

Put materials
in 2 trash bags;
throw away,
burn or bury.



Formula for Disinfectant Solution:

1 and 1/2 cups of chlorine
bleach to every gallon of water.
Or use household spray
disinfectant.

For more information, call your state
health department. Or call CDC toll-free
at 1-877-232-3322.

For more information contact your local
health department or:

Arizona Department of Health Services
Bureau of Epidemiology & Disease Control
Office of Infectious Disease Services
Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease Section
150 N. 18th Avenue, Suite 140
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Tel: (602) 364-4562 Fax: (602) 364-3198
(800) 314-9243

www.azdhs.gov/phs/oids/vector/index.htm

www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hanta/hps/index.htm

Hantavirus Protect Yourself and Your Family

SEAL UP! TRAP UP! CLEAN UP!

Protect Your Family from Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS)



Arizona Department of Health Services
Bureau of Epidemiology & Disease Control
Office of Infectious Disease Services
Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease Section
150 N. 18th Avenue, Suite 140
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Tel: (602) 364-4562 Fax: (602) 364-3198

MARCH 2005